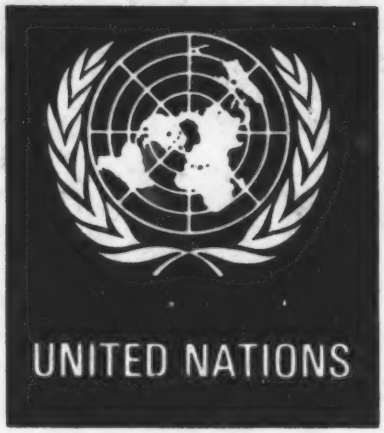

DIVISION FOR PALESTINIAN RIGHTS

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I. COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY ADOPTS TWO RESOLUTIONS AND A DECLARATION ON THE MIDDLE EAST AND PALESTINE

At its fifty-second ordinary session held at Addis Ababa from 3 to 7 July 1990, the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity adopted the following resolutions:

A. "Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity on the situation in the Middle East as contained in document CM/1607 (LII), of the Council of Ministers,

"Guided by the principles and objectives of the Charters of the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations, and the common determination of the African and Arab peoples,

"Bearing in mind the successive resolutions adopted previously by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government and the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity on the situation in the Middle East,

"Noting with deep concern that in spite of the many resolutions adopted by the United Nations General Assembly, the Security Council and the Organization of African Unity urging Israel to withdraw from the Arab territories occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, not only has Israel persistently refused to comply with these resolutions, but continues to pursue its occupation and expansionist policy,

"Reaffirming that the violation by Israel of the territories of its neighbours and of the other Arab countries, their airspace and territorial waters poses a threat to international peace and security,

"Noting with deep indignation that the complicity between the Zionist régime of Israel and the apartheid régime of South Africa is aimed at perpetrating acts of terrorism and pursuing the repression of Palestinians and Arabs in the occupied territories, on the one hand, and the majority of the black population of South Africa on the other:

"1. Reaffirms all previous resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government and the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity and expresses its full support to the Arab countries, victims of Israeli aggression, and to the Palestinian people in their just struggle to recover their rights and their occupied territory;

"2. Emphasizes the identity of the struggle waged by the Arab and African peoples and the need for caution against the total collusion between the Tel Aviv Government and the racist régime of Pretoria, especially as regards nuclear armament and the serious threat to security and peace;

"3. Pays a glowing tribute to the Lebanese people for their heroic resistance to external aggression; appeals to the Lebanese people to effect a reconciliation so as to safeguard the independence and territorial integrity of Lebanon; demands the withdrawal of Israeli forces from South Lebanon, in conformity with Security Council resolution 425 (1978); calls for the implementation of the TAFF Agreement and encourages all other peace initiatives in Lebanon;

"4. Calls for continued efforts for the restoration of a global and lasting peace between Iraq and Iran in conformity with Security Council resolution 598 (1987) as a comprehensive peace plan;

"5. Reaffirms the declaration CM/ST.22 (XLIII) and AHG/DEC.2 (XXII) of the Council of Ministers and the Assembly of Heads of State and Government on the American aggression against the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and condemns the new American threats to use force against Libya, denounces the economic embargo against it, demands the lifting of that embargo and reaffirms its solidarity with the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya;

"6. Supports the initiative of H.E. Mohamed Hosni Mubarak, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt and current Chairman of the twenty-fifth ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government to make the Middle East a zone free of any weapon of mass destruction;

"7. Supports the efforts exerted to convene the International Conference for Peace in the Middle East, in pursuance of the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations, with the participation, on an equal footing, of the permanent members of the Security Council, and the parties concerned, including the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian People;

"8. Demands the withdrawal of Israel from the occupied Arab territories and considers null and void any measures taken by Israel in the occupied territories aimed at changing their characteristics and over-exploiting their resources;

"9. Requests all States, international organizations and investment institutions to refrain from providing Israel with any form of support in its practices on these territories and engaging in any co-operation relations with this country, likely to enable it to illegally exploit the resources of these territories and demands that Israel put an end to its acts of violation;

"10. Requests the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity to follow up the evolution of the situation in the Middle East and report thereon to the next session of the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity." (see CM/RES. 1276 (LII))

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B. "Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the question of Palestine as contained in document CM/1584 (LI),

"Guided by the principles and objectives of the Charters of the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations and the joint struggle against zionism and racism for the attainment of freedom and peace,

"Recalling the resolutions adopted by the previous sessions of the Council of Ministers and those adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government on the Question of Palestine,

"Further recalling all resolutions of the United Nations and the non-aligned Movement on the Question of Palestine,

"Reaffirming the legitimacy of the struggle of the Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative, in order to recover their territories and exercise their full national rights,

"Following with attention the Palestinian popular uprising (**Intifadah**) in the occupied territories in order to put an end to the Israeli occupation and attain the inalienable national rights for the Palestinian people, including their rights to return to their homeland, self-determination and the establishment of their independent State with Jerusalem as its capital,

"Commending the honourable stand taken by the African States members of the Security Council at its session held at Geneva,

"Noting with deep concern the acts of systematic state terrorism practised by Israel against the Palestinian people and their leaders both in and outside the occupied territories,

"Noting further the alliance between the Zionist régime of Israel and the racist régime in South Africa, both pursuing a terrorist policy aimed at the liquidation of the Palestinian people in the Palestinian occupied territories on the one hand, and the people of South Africa on the other:

"1. Reaffirms all the previous resolutions and recommendations adopted by various sessions of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government and the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity on the question of Palestine;

"2. Hails the resistance of the Palestinian Arab people to Israeli occupation, the intensification of the Palestinian people's uprising in the face of the brutal repression perpetrated by the Israeli authorities as well as the sacrifices made by the Palestinian people under the leadership of their sole legitimate representative, the PLO, in order to recover their inalienable rights to return to their homeland, to recover their property in Palestine, to self-determination without outside interference and the establishment of their independent and sovereign state with Jerusalem as its capital;

"3. Demands that Israel withdraw immediately and unconditio[nally] from all the occupied Palestinian territories, and calls on [the] United Nations to take all the necessary measures to put an [end to] the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territories, and [secure] international protection for the people through the presenc[e of] international forces to facilitate the return to a global a[nd just] peace in the region;

"4. Strongly condemns the continued inhuman acts perpetrate[d by] Israel against the citizens of occupied Palestinian and Ara[b] territories such as mass deportation and detention, slaughte[r of] women and children, destruction of homes, confiscation of l[ands and] property and the desecration of holy places. It exhorts [an end to] international organizations to intervene in order to put an [human] tense inhuman acts which constitute a flagrant violation of rights in Palestine;

"5. Expresses its total support for the legitimate heroic p[opular] uprising of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestini[an] territories, and calls on Member States to provide the PLO [with all] forms of assistance to enable it intensify this popular upri[sing];

"6. Supports the efforts being made to convene an Internatio[nal] Peace Conference on the Middle East, under the auspices of t[he] United Nations with the participation on equal footing of th[e] permanent members of the United Nations Security Council and [all the] parties concerned, including the PLO;

"7. Reaffirms its support for the Palestinian initiative for [the] establishment of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East[;]

"8. Appeals to the United States of America to resume the di[alogue] with the PLO, since this dialogue constitutes a vital factor [in the] peace process in the Middle East;

"9. Strongly condemns the expansionist settlement policies p[ursued] by Israel in occupied Palestine, including Jerusalem, and es[pecially] the immigration and settlement of Soviet Jews in the occupie[d Arab] territories;

"10. Exhorts all States to refrain from granting credits or [any] other form of assistance to the Israeli Government likely to [o]facilitate the settlement of migrants in Palestine and occup[ied Arab] territories. It requests that these illegal settlements be [stopped,] existing settlements be dismantled and an international mach[inery be] set up to monitor and expose Israeli activities in this area[;]

"11. Urges the Soviet Union and the United States of America[, in] view of their declared positions, and the international com[munity to] do everything possible to prevent the settlement of migrant [Jews in] the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories;

"12. Calls for the convening of an Islam/Christian meeting, including the Vatican, oriental churches and others, in order to protect and preserve the identity of the Holy City as well as its religious, historical and demographic aspects;

"13. Calls on the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity to follow up the developments of the Palestinian question and submit a report thereon to the forthcoming session of the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity."
(see CM/RES. 1277 (LII))

At the twenty-sixth ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, held at Addis Ababa from 9 to 11 July 1990, the Assembly adopted the following declaration:

"The Assembly, having discussed the situation in the Middle East and Palestine, views with deep concern the dangers threatening the future of peace and security in the region and the escalation of tension which leads the region to the verge of war as a result of Israel's intransigence and the continued occupation of the Palestinian and Arab territories;

"The Assembly followed with grave concern the developments resulting from the Israeli expansionist settlement policy in the process of transfer of Soviet Jews to occupied Palestinian and other Arab occupied territories;

"The Assembly considered the process of transfer of Soviet Jews and their illegal settlement in these occupied territories and the measures accompanying it as a prelude to the deportation of the Palestinian people from their homeland, and the confiscation of their properties to accommodate the newly coming Soviet Jews;

"The Assembly calls upon the State concerned in this transfer of population in particular, and the international community in general to put an urgent end to this dangerous process and calls for the guarantee of the Palestinian people's national rights;

"Furthermore, the Assembly calls upon the United States of America to resume the dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organization in order to achieve serious progress in the peace process in the Middle East, and reaffirms the necessity of convening the International Conference for Peace under the auspices of the United Nations with the participation of all concerned parties, including the PLO, on equal footing." (See AHG/Decl.2 (XXVI))

II. EXCERPT FROM FINAL COMMUNIQUE ADOPTED AT THIRD MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE OF THE MEDITERRANEAN NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES, HELD AT ALGIERS ON 25 AND 26 JUNE 1990

"After examining the Palestinian issue and the situation in the Middle East, the Ministers expressed their deep concern over the continuation of this crisis and the non-settlement of the question of Palestine - which is at its core - as a result of Israel's occupation of the Palestinian land, including Al Qods, the Syrian Arab Golan, and other Arab territories. They underlined that Israel's continued aggressive policy and annexionist practices in the region, particularly its greater Israel design, constitute serious threats to international peace and security. They also expressed their deep concern over the worsening of repressive measures, confiscation of property, forceful expulsion and banishment of Palestinians and the establishment of settlements by the Israeli occupation authorities.

"In this respect, the Ministers condemned the Israeli threats of aggression against some non-aligned Mediterranean countries, which constitute a dangerous threat to peace and security in the Mediterranean region and warned against the consequences of such bellicose threats to international peace and security.

"The Ministers declared that the massive influx of immigrant Jews, particularly from the Soviet Union and their settlement in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Al Qods, the Syrian Arab Golan and southern Lebanon, has innumerable negative consequences for peace in the region, undermines the peace process, frustrates the efforts so far displayed, and constitutes a blatant violation of the international law, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the fourth Geneva Convention and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as well as the fundamental rights of the Palestinian people. While supporting every individual's right to leave any country, including his own, and his right to return, the Ministers stressed that that right should not be exercised at the expense of a third party, in this particular case at the expense of the Palestinians, the Syrians and the Lebanese. They reasserted that all measures taken by Israel to alter the political, cultural and demographic features of Palestine and other occupied territories are null and void. In this respect, they expressed their support of the Final Communiqué issued by the meeting of the Committee of the Nine on Palestine established by the non-aligned Movement, which was held at Tunis in March 1990.

"The Ministers hailed the heroic intifadah of the Palestinian people, which generated important developments in the region, thus creating conditions that induced the whole international community to engage in common action with a view of reaching a comprehensive, lasting and just settlement. They emphasized the constructive stands of the Palestine Liberation Organization, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, which rendered a positive contribution in evolving a just and comprehensive solution as adopted by the National Palestinian Council at Algiers in November 1988. A solution was endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly resolution adopted at Geneva on 15 December 1988. Resolution 43/176 emphasized that the convening of an International Peace Conference on the Middle East with the participation, on an equal footing, of the concerned parties, the permanent members of the United Nations Security Council, including the Palestine Liberation Organization, under the aegis of the United Nations, is the adequate formula to achieve a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement, which would lead to Israel's total withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories and secure the Palestinian people's legitimate, inalienable, national rights to return to its homeland, to exercise its self-determination, and to establish its own independent State in Palestine. The Ministers condemned the terrorist practices of the Israeli authorities against the Palestinian people and denounced the massacre of civilians and Palestinian workers perpetrated in Aioun Kara on 20 May 1990, which cost hundreds of deaths and injuries among the Palestinians. The Ministers deplored the United States position favourable to Israel as well as its use of the veto, which impeded efforts of the Security Council and the United Nations towards providing adequate protection to the Palestinian people under Israeli occupation. The Ministers also hailed the steadfastness of the Syrian nationals in the Golan Heights in confronting the Israeli occupation authorities and in their attachment to their lands and to their Syrian Arab identity." (See A/45/357, paras. 13-16)

III. EXCERPT FROM JOINT COMMUNIQUE OF THE TWENTY-THIRD ASEAN MINISTERIAL MEETING, HELD AT JAKARTA ON 24 AND 25 JULY 1990

"MIDDLE EAST

"The Foreign Ministers reviewed the situation in the Middle East and expressed concern that, despite positive developments taking place on the international scene, the situation in the occupied territories continues to deteriorate. They stressed the urgency for a settlement and reaffirmed their strong support for the International Peace Conference on the Middle East, under the auspices of the United Nations, in order to achieve a just, comprehensive and lasting solution. They reiterated their full support for the legitimate struggle of the Palestinian people to exercise their inalienable rights, including the right to self-determination and independence, and the restoration of Arab sovereignty over the occupied territories.

"The Foreign Ministers deplored the creation of new settlements of Jewish immigrants in the Arab occupied territories by Israel. This unjustified act has serious consequences, including changes in the balance of the demographic composition, which would further complicate the search for a political solution to the conflict. This is also in violation of the relevant United Nations resolutions, basic principles of international law, especially the fourth Geneva Convention of 1949, as well as the basic rights of the Palestinian people.

"The Foreign Ministers expressed their regret over the suspension by the United States of its dialogue with the PLO and called for its early resumption. They expressed their conviction that such a dialogue is an essential ingredient for resolving the Middle East conflict."
(A/45/389-S/21455, paras. 66 - 68)

IV. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ADOPTS RESOLUTIONS ENTITLED "ISRAELI ECONOMIC PRACTICES IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN AND OTHER ARAB TERRITORIES" AND "ASSISTANCE TO THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE"

At its second regular session of 1990, held at Geneva from 4 to 27 July, the Economic and Social Council adopted the following resolutions relating to the question of Palestine:

"1990/53. Israeli economic practices in the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories

"The Economic and Social Council,

"Recalling General Assembly decision 40/432 of 17 December 1985,

"Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/86 of 26 July 1989,

"Expressing concern that the report requested by the Council in resolution 1989/86 was not presented,

"Requests the Secretary-General to prepare the report on the Israeli land and water policies and practices in the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories, taking into account Israeli settlement practices, and to submit that report to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session, through the Economic and Social Council."

34th plenary meeting
24 July 1990

"1990/59. Assistance to the Palestinian people

"The Economic and Social Council,

"Recalling General Assembly resolution 44/235 of 22 December 1989,

"Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/96 of 26 July 1989,

"Taking into account the intifadah of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory against the Israeli occupation, including Israeli economic and social policies and practices,

"Rejecting Israeli restrictions on external economic and social assistance to the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory,

"Aware of the increasing need to provide economic and social assistance to the Palestinian people,

"Affirming that the Palestinian people cannot develop their national economy as long as the Israeli occupation persists,

"1. Takes note of the note by the Secretary-General on assistance to the Palestinian people;[1]/

"2. Expresses its appreciation to the States, United Nations bodies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations that have provided assistance to the Palestinian people;

"3. Requests the World Food Programme to provide food assistance to the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory;

"4. Requests the international community, the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to sustain and increase their assistance to the Palestinian people, in close co-operation with the Palestine Liberation Organization;

"5. Calls for the treatment on a transit basis of Palestinian exports and imports passing through neighbouring ports and points of exit and entry;

"6. Also calls for the granting of trade concessions and concrete preferential measures for Palestinian exports on the basis of Palestinian certificates of origin;

"7. Further calls for the immediate lifting of Israeli restrictions and obstacles hindering the implementation of assistance projects by the United Nations Development Programme, other United Nations bodies and others providing economic and social assistance to the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory;

"8. Reiterates its call for the implementation of development projects in the occupied Palestinian territory, including the projects mentioned in General Assembly resolution 39/223 of 18 December 1984;

"9. Calls for facilitating the establishment of Palestinian development banks in the occupied Palestinian territory, with a view to promoting investment, production, employment and income therein;

"10. Requests the Secretary-General to report in full to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution."

36th plenary meeting
26 July 1990

1/ E/1990/71/Rev.1.

V. THE UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST PROTESTS ISRAELI ADMINISTRATION'S REFUSAL TO ALLOW EXTENSION OF SCHOOL YEAR FOR FIVE WEST BANK SCHOOLS

The following press release was issued by UNRWA on 10 July 1990:

"The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) has expressed concern that the Agency's attempt to salvage the school year for 2,263 pupils at five schools in Tulkarm camp, in the West Bank, has been prevented by the Israeli Civil Administration.

"The five schools, closed by military order from 11 February through 22 May and during several curfews in May and June, were scheduled to reopen today, 10 July, for one month to make up for lost time. However, the Civil Administration demanded that schools be closed for the summer holidays as of 2 July and warned the UNRWA Jerusalem Field Office that it would forcibly prevent the Agency from reopening the Tulkarm schools.

In view of the decision by the Israeli authorities, UNRWA decided not to reopen the schools, in order not to expose the children to any possible harm.

UNRWA deplores this latest intervention in its education programme, which prevents the Agency from providing an appropriate education service to Palestine refugee children and from making the most effective use of public funds donated for this purpose." (See PAL/1734)

VI. NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS: ACTIVITIES AND INFORMATION

In the course of July, the following information was received by the Division for Palestinian Rights:

1. The Other Front, weekly bulletin on developments in Israel society. Available from: The Alternative Information Centre, P.O. Box 24278, Jerusalem.

2. Palestine, Fortnightly supplement of Palestine Al-Thawra. Available from Bisan Press and Publication Institute (Ltd.), 13 Botsart St., Nicosia, Cyprus.

3. The Washington Report on Middle East Affairs, monthly magazine, available from: P.O. Box 53062, Washington, D.C. 20009, U.S.A.

4. Jerusalem, published by Palestine Committee for N.G.O.s, available from: B.P. 554, Tunis Cedex 1080, Tunis, Tunisia.

5. Return, quarterly, available from: Return, BM 8999, London WC1N 3XX, United Kingdom.

6. The Cost of Freedom, annual report of the Palestine Human Rights Information Centre. Available from: 4753 N. Broadway, Suite 930, Chicago, IL 60640, U.S.A., or Arab Studies Society, P.O. Box 20479, Jerusalem.

7. Another Viewpoint, available from: 604 Barbera Place, Davis, CA 95616, U.S.A.

8. The Palestinian, monthly publication of the Association of Palestinian Arab Canadians, Capital Region. Available from: P.O. Box 2605, Station "D" Ottawa, Ontario, K1P 5W7, Canada.

9. Middle East International, bi-weekly publication, available from: 21, Collingham Road, London SW5 ONU, United Kingdom, or 1700, 17th St., N.W. # 306, Washington, D.C. 20009, U.S.A.

10. The Other Israel, newsletter of the Israeli Council for Israeli-Palestinian Peace. Available from: P.O.B. 956, Tel-Aviv, Israel 61008.

11. HADAF Newsletter, available from: Al Hadaf Cultural Foundation, P.O. Box 169, 30010 UMM El Fahm, Israel.

12. "News from within", Independent Newsletter, available from: Alternative Information Centre, P.O. Box 24278, Jerusalem.

13. "Oriente Medio", publication issued by Amigos de Palestina, Apdo. N° 2102, 37080 Salamanca, Spain.

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